

Subject: Graded Approach	Effective Date:	Initiated by:
	November 4, 2002	Head, Quality Assurance
	Supersedes:	Approved:
	Revision 1 Dated 7/12/99	Director

Each Department is responsible to assure that the appropriate graded approach is applied to its work. In general, this may be accomplished via a formal definition of the appropriate grades and the controls to be applied or on a case-by-case basis for specific activities and projects. The graded approach should take into consideration such factors as:

- The relative importance to safety, safeguards, security, and quality,
- The magnitude of any hazard or risk involved,
- The life cycle stage of a facility, e.g. age, status, condition,
- Impact/consequences on programmatic mission of a facility, including objectives, cost, and schedule,
- The particular characteristics of a facility or activity,
- The nuclear safety classification or hazard category of the item or activity,
- History of problems at a site or a facility,
- Adequacy of existing safety documentation, and
- Complexity of the products or services involved.

Department Heads have the responsibility and authority to set and approve how the graded approach is applied to the work of the Projects and Divisions under their charge. Although Department Heads may delegate and share this authority and responsibility with their Division and Project line managers, they retain the responsibility to maintain awareness of how the graded approach is being applied within their Department and to ensure that appropriate environment, safety, health, security and quality controls are employed.